

# Σ Camping!

Spring 2011

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News about the Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania  
Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and The Wittel Farm

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[www.LutheranCamping.org](http://www.LutheranCamping.org)



**SUMMER CAMP 2011**  
**AT KIRCHENWALD & NAWAKWA**  
**REGISTER TODAY!**



# THE REV. DR. ROBERT H. FISCHER

A photograph from the 1929 Lutheran Leadership Training Camp hangs in Nawakwa's Dining Hall. A young boy is seated in the front row, wearing fancy knee socks and what could only be described as a grimace. That young man is the youngest child of Nawakwa's founder and first director, Dr. M. Hadwin Fischer. Like director's children for years to come, young Bobby looks like he would rather be doing anything else.

Bob spent many summers at Nawakwa, some more willingly than others, with his family, which grew to include his wife, Edna Mae Black. Bob was graduated from Gettysburg College and Gettysburg Seminary, and earned his doctorate at Yale. He served as a professor of church history at Maywood Seminary and later at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago from 1949-1986, was a fine musician, a prolific writer, and a scholar of Luther. Notable among his many accomplishments is Fischer's translation of Luther's Large Catechism for the 1959 edition of The Book of Concord. Dr. Timothy Wengert, co-editor of the 2000 edition of the same work, asserts that Fischer's translation was so fine that few changes were made, even after 40 years.

## HIGH ROPES COURSE AT NAWAKWA!

Through a generous gift of Nawakwa's "First Family," a high ropes course has been installed on the new property at Nawakwa. The course – four initiatives and a zipline – was made possible through a memorial gift from the family of Robert H. Fischer, son of Nawakwa's founder.

The course, constructed in December 2010 by Griffin Adventures of Hagerstown, MD, will contribute greatly to the summer camping and retreat ministries at Nawakwa. Summer campers and staff who use the zipline in 2011 will be inducted into the Flying Fischer Fellowship and will receive a small token of their accomplishment from the Fischer Family.

Dr. Fischer, his wife Edna Mae, daughter Susan, and granddaughter Amanda attended Nawakwa's 75th Anniversary in May of 2004. Guests were honored by their presence and blessed by Dr. Fischer's words. A few weeks later, word arrived that Dr. Fischer had died. Ralph Klein of LSTC described Dr. Fischer as "warm, evangelical, loyal, quiet and unassuming, dedicated, loving, persistent, dignified." We remember him as scholar, teacher, father, husband, son, and Child of God.



Another photo from Nawakwa's archives shows Bobby Fischer (in the v-neck and knickers), seated between Verna Mae Utz and Rev. Willis Ford in August, 1932.



Spring Work Day - April 16

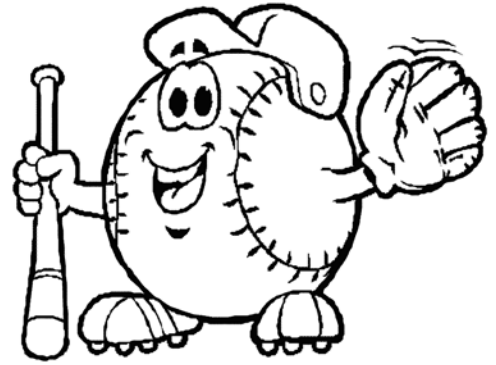


# KNOCK-KNOCK ONE OUT OF THE BALLPARK!!

Kids 12 and under are invited to enter the Lutheran Camping Corporation Knock-Knock Joke Contest. Send us your best knock-knock joke and you just might win a ticket to the Friday, May 6th Harrisburg Senators Game. Not only that, if your joke is chosen, you will also win the opportunity to be on the field with the Senators during the National Anthem. How good is that?

Online entry is available at [www.lutherancamping.org/knockknock](http://www.lutherancamping.org/knockknock), or send your joke along with your name, address, telephone number and age to Joke Contest, Lutheran Camping Corporation, PO Box 459, Arendtsville, PA 17303.

Up to 10 winning entries will be chosen. Contest judges can be bribed with peanut butter eggs.



## Outdoor Ministry Night at the Harrisburg Senators

Friday, May 6, 7:00pm

Harrisburg Senators vs. Reading Phillies

*A portion of each Advance Sale Ticket will benefit the Campership Fund.*

## LIFE CHANGING ADVENTURES IN FAITH

The core of the Lutheran Camping Corporation ministry is helping our children and youth grow in their faith, in their relationship with Christ, and in their commitment to the Church. Of course, we also have similar ministry goals for adults, families, youth groups, congregations and other groups. But, when most people think Kirchenwald and Nawakwa they think of faith formation for children and youth. This is a wonderful, joyful ministry to conduct. It's also absolutely essential for the future health of the congregations we serve and the ELCA .

It's essential because the church is losing children. Between 1990 and 2002, ELCA Sunday schools declined by 200,000 students. This church-wide trend is evident within the Lower Susquehanna Synod, as congregations experience declining Sunday school attendance. Imagine this trend going unchanged into the future and we'll have a church with not only few children, but eventually with few adults and few adult leaders.

What's to be done? In a familiar song from 1985, Whitney Houston sings, "I believe that children are our future. Teach them well and let them lead the way". What the lyrics suggest is absolutely true: well-taught children of today become the leaders of the future. LCC outdoor ministry experiences are a key component to the faith formation and Lutheran leadership development for our children and youth. At camp, they are encouraged, empowered, and energized about their faith and their present and future role

in the church. Outdoor ministry experiences significantly contribute to the development of future leaders, and help keep youth more connected to their congregations than those who don't attend church camp.

Again, what's to be done? Simple; send children to summer camp at Kirchenwald and Nawakwa for a life-changing adventure in faith. They're the most fun summer camps money can buy!!!



CAMP

Director To-Do List

- Re grip climbing tower
- Set up sailboats
- Pick berries for homemade pie
- Dig up clay for pottery

Night Hawks Constellation Guide



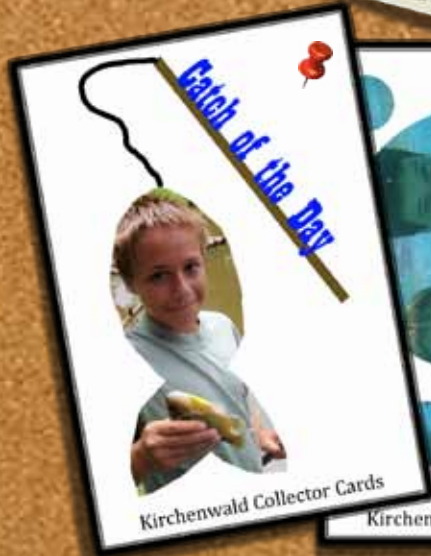
New living area for 2011-  
FORT KIRCHENWALD!



New Camps for 2011



- Back Country Outpost
  - Juniors and Intermediates
  - Live at Fort Kirchenwald
  - Make furniture / build raft / fishing
- Night Hawks
  - Junior program
  - Planetarium
  - Star charting
  - Rockets
- Mountain Biking
  - Intermediate program
  - July 3-9
  - Rail trails and single tracks





July Family Camp  
Rev. Glenn Ludwig - Adult Bible Study  
Chelle Huth, AIM - Chaplain

August Family Camp  
Rev. Deb Mahady - Adult Bible Study  
Rev. Kathy Baker - Chaplain



- Blast Off Camp!! (7/31-8/3)
- Order model rockets
  - See if Buzz Aldrin can visit
  - See if Buzz Lightyear can visit
  - Schedule trip to Udvar-Hazy

**Model Rocket Monthly**

National Model Rocket Day

Saturday  
**14**  
May

- Staff Training**
- Bible Study Curriculum
  - High Ropes Course
  - Low Challenge Course
  - First Aid/CPR
  - Risk Management

Should we start doing this again?

**Camp Nawakwa**  
LUTHERAN LEADERSHIP TRAINING SCHOOL  
Of the Parish and Church School Board of the  
United Lutheran Church in America

This Certifies that \_\_\_\_\_  
of \_\_\_\_\_ has satisfactorily completed the work  
prescribed for graduation from the Young People's Camp and in witness  
thereof is awarded this

**DIPLOMA**

given at Arendtsville, Adams County, Pennsylvania,  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Director

# “RECIPES FOR PLANNED GIVING”

First in a Series

Grandpa Merle’s favorite bible verse is 1 John 4:19, “We love because he (God) first loved us.” It neatly sums up his reasons for supporting his favorite ministries.

Even though his present gifts are modest, he wants to be sure that those ministries will be remembered at his death. So he has arranged through beneficiary designation forms for various assets (life insurance, some stock that he had himself inherited, an IRA account) to go directly to his preferred ministries.

He plans to provide for his family with his assets by bequests in his will

(he had considered a living trust but agreed with his attorney that it was not necessary in his case). Even so, he knows that unforeseen events may negate some of his plans, so he has included charitable bequests that will be followed only if circumstances make his primary wishes impossible.

The results will be that his careful planning will provide for his loved ones, sustain the ministries that he has supported over the years, reduce estate tax liability, avoid federal and state taxes on the remainder of his IRA account, and eliminate taxes on many years of capital gains.

## **BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION / BEQUEST**

### **Ingredients needed:**

**Bank or brokerage account, life insurance, qualified retirement account, will.**

### **Necessary Tools:**

**Beneficiary Designation form or  
A bequest clause in a will or  
A a living trust.**

### **Results:**

**Support favorite ministries after one’s death.  
Reduce or avoid estate tax/capital gain tax.**

### **Cost:**

**No cost for beneficiary designation.  
Legal fees to establish or modify will or living trust.**

Contact Pastor Dave Clark at 717-677-8211 or [dclark@lutherancamping.org](mailto:dclark@lutherancamping.org) if you have any questions. Please be sure to consult with your professional advisor for legal, tax, and financial planning advice.



# FORE!

12th Annual Golf Tournament  
Monday, July 11 Range End Golf Club  
Proceeds benefit the Campership Fund

## Top 10 Reasons Family Camp is a Great Vacation Option

10. No metal detector or pat-down upon entering camp.
9. Just try to find Kathy’s PB pie or cream puff cake on a Carnival Cruise.
8. The “characters” at Nawakwa aren’t (always) wearing costumes.
7. No jellyfish in our waters!
6. Send the kids off with camp staff while Glenn Ludwig (July) or Deb Mahady (August) lead bible studies for the adults... and see who has more fun!
5. Live entertainment EVERY NIGHT – included in your registration!!
4. Camp cots are a lot like hammocks.
3. No greedy seagulls.
2. On a hazy day, the view from Upper Temple is quite similar to that of Mt. Washington or Pikes Peak.
1. At Family Camp, you can spend a week with your family, however you choose to define it, living in Christian community – connecting and re-connecting, making friends, and making memories.

# FAITH IN THE WILDERNESS

Wittel Farm Summer Day Program

Balance on the deck of Noah's storm-tossed ark, tip-toe with Daniel in a lions' den. Sunday school, Bible school, and other children's groups will be thrilled and informed through this hands-on Christian education experience. Children will learn about their faith through wild, exciting Bible stories including David and Goliath, Jonah and the whale, and others. They're brought to life through games, activities, songs, and drama. Children see how "Bible heroes" lived faithfully through wild times in their lives and learn how to live as faithful children of God in our modern wildernesses. Call the camping office at 677-8211 to schedule your group's participation. Program is offered each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from June 21 through August 11. Cost: \$8.00/person; lunch provided. Intended for ages 6 – 12.



## Spring Men's Retreat at Kirchenwald May 6-7

Need a weekend with the guys? Come on out to Kirchenwald for a retreat that's sure to put hair on your chest. Get your hands dirty with on-site service projects, break a sweat with some athletic competition and bike riding, and join in fellowship and Bible study in a faith-based environment.



## IMAGINE...CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

As of the end of January, 2011, individuals and congregations have contributed \$643,283 to the IMAGINE... Capital Campaign. Thanks to prepayments made possible by these generous gifts, the time period to pay off the mortgage has essentially been shortened by four years. We also expect another \$250,000 to come in over the next two years from pledges already "on the books".

The ultimate goal of the campaign, however, is still to pay off the mortgage as quickly as possible. So we are still looking for additional IMAGINE...Campaign pledges and

outright gifts from individuals and congregations. By minimizing the debt service costs, we ensure that our summer camp program and year-round retreat ministry can continue to serve with normal operating funds.

Indeed, donors have a tremendous opportunity at this point in the campaign to multiply the effect of their gifts. For example, a prepayment of \$40,609 at this point will save the LCC \$85,103 in interest payments and cut another year off the expected payment schedule! What a bargain! With these numbers in mind, a gift of appreciated stock would even add a

benefit to the donor by also avoiding tax on any capital gains. Finally, another way a donor could maximize the "bang for the buck" would be to direct mandatory IRA withdrawals to the LCC rather than receiving them as income, thereby eliminating additional income tax liability for the donor.

The development office will be producing new materials over the next few months, including a new video, brochures, and posters. In the meantime, further information is available through the camp office.

*A Garden and Tea Party  
at The Wittel Farm*

*Saturday, May 14  
9am - Noon*



The Lutheran Camping Corporation  
of Central Pennsylvania  
PO Box 459  
Arendtsville, PA 17303  
LutheranCamping.org



Check it out  
in full color!

Nonprofit Org  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit #762  
Harrisburg, PA

## Spring 2011

- April 13 Bishop's Bible Study at  
The Wittel Farm
- April 16 Workday
- April 16 Lenten Pilgrimage at  
The Wittel Farm
- April 16 Imagine...Fundraiser Dinner  
at Trindle Spring  
Lutheran, Mechanicsburg
- April 17 Summer Camp Open House
- May 6-7 Men's Retreat at Kirchenwald
- May 14 Garden & Tea Party at  
The Wittel Farm
- May 15 Summer Camp Kick-Off  
Worship & Picnic at Kirchenwald
- May 21 Volleyball Tournament



Stay connected...  
Visit [www.lutherancamping.org/socialmedia](http://www.lutherancamping.org/socialmedia)

## REGISTER NOW FOR THE CONGREGATIONAL VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

Saturday, May 21



It's the return of Kirchenwald's congregational volleyball tournament. Games start at 10am and will be followed by lunch and a short campfire worship. We'll light up the grills for hot dogs and sausages. All you need to bring are cold side dishes and snacks for all to share. Drinks will also be provided.

Registration fee is \$40 per team (\$7 for each additional player for teams larger than six), with proceeds to benefit Kirchenwald programs.

Registration information can be found at [www.lutherancamping.org](http://www.lutherancamping.org).

*Have you seen the commercial on YouTube?*